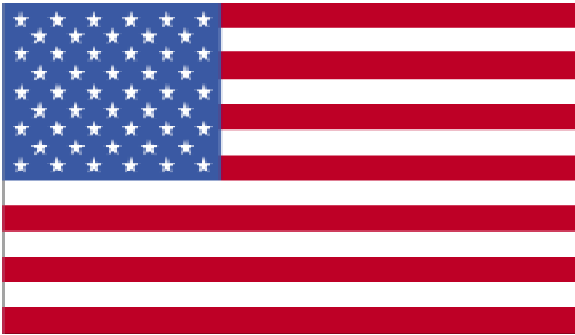


Photo Highlights from South India

December 2005



*Produced by Public Affairs Section
U.S. Consulate General Chennai, India*



Students from Stella Maris College's "Red Ribbon Club" perform a "street theater" skit designed to educate people about HIV/AIDS. The performance was part of the University of Madras' World AIDS Day conference, in which the U.S. Consulate participated.



Children from Cuddalore gather on the beach the first anniversary of the tsunami. These children are taking part in a USAID-funded activity program that feature karate training. USAID funds a number of programs that are successfully helping people improve their lives in the aftermath of the tsunami.



Consul General David T. Hopper (center, with red tie) at the inauguration of the 3rd Chennai International Film Festival (CIFF). Well-known Tamil film stars Sneha and Prasanth can be seen at the far right. The U.S. Consulate brought American documentary filmmaker Aviva Kempner to India to attend CIFF and the International Film Festival of Kerala (IFFK).



Office of Public Affairs staffers L. Krishnakumari and Meena Reddy prepare the U.S. Consulate's booth at the Shakti Foundation's "Kids FunFest." The U.S. Consulate had games, provided information about disability rights in the U.S., and lead more than twenty local business leaders in a "pledge" to respect the rights of the disabled.



DPAO Christopher Wurst onstage at the Shakti Foundation's "Kids FunFest," a day of fun and games for children of all ability levels and an event to raise awareness about disability rights. Earlier the DPAO led a group of local business leaders in a "corporate commitment" pledge to fight for disability rights.



United States Under Secretary of Commerce for Security and Industry, David H. McCormick, addresses the press during a recent visit to Bangalore.



Deputy Public Affairs Officer Christopher Wurst teaches a lesson to English students at Cordova School in Thiruvananthapuram, in Kerala. Cordova students are participating in the State Department-funded ACCESS English Language Micro scholarship Program.



Jeffrey Rosen, the Director of the National Council on Disability, in Washington DC, addresses a full auditorium during a DVC on Disability Rights at the Consulate. The program, which was co-sponsored by the Ability Foundation, focused on disability rights laws and inclusive education. A number of leading disability rights leaders from all over India came to Chennai to participate in the program.



American film director Aviva Kempner ("The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg") on the set of a Kollywood comedy being filmed at LV Prasad studios, in Chennai. Ms. Kempner spoke to documentary film students at LV Prasad, during her speaking tour throughout India.